

service members alike. This is a tragic problem that needs to be urgently addressed but the reality is that there are not any easy answers and this challenge does not offer any quick fixes.

I applaud Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki for marshaling the resources of the U.S. military and the Veterans Administration to attack this tragic epidemic. As we draw down after nearly a decade of war, Secretary Panetta and Secretary Shinseki have committed their departments to not only improve how wars are conducted, but how we address the after-effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and other disabling injuries.

In addition to veterans, we also see that a large portion of suicides are coming from within the LGBT community. LGBT youth are four times more likely to attempt suicide and when they are rejected by their families, eight times more likely. With statistics like these, it couldn't be clearer that there is a great need for assistance and support for LGBT youth, as many are often harassed, bullied and subjected to physical violence by their peers.

These stories of harassment are becoming far too familiar. Take Tyler Clementi, a college freshman attending Rutgers University and an accomplished violinist. At the young age of 18, Tyler's privacy was invaded by his dorm roommate. Deciding that the ridicule was too much to bear, Tyler tragically cut his own life short.

For many, solace has been found with the Trevor Project, a non-profit organization in Los Angeles dedicated to providing life-saving resources to young people in the LGBT community. I recently had the honor of meeting with Abbe Land, the Executive Director and CEO of the Trevor Project and witnessed first-hand how the organization handled phone calls from distressed youth from around the country on their around-the-clock suicide prevention lifeline. With over 30,000 calls each year to the Trevor project, their commitment to saving lives is unparalleled.

The problem of suicide has no prejudice or political affiliation. Suicide touches each one of us and forever changes our lives. I am proud to honor the Trevor Project and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline during Suicide Prevention Month as they work tirelessly to prevent the loss of our loved ones who are most in need of support.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE BOROUGH OF ROSETO

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial of the incorporation of the Borough of Roseto, Pennsylvania, and to recognize the many contributions its residents have made to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States.

Roseto, nestled in the rolling hills of Northampton County, was founded by Italian immigrants, who came to America in the late 19th Century to work in Pennsylvania's busy slate quarries. In 1887, Nicola Rosato, Lorenzo Falcone, Giovanni Policelli, and Angelo Tedesco purchased tracts of land and built a thriving community, originally known simply as

"Little Italy." In just ten years, the little town had grown large enough to earn its own post office.

Residents named their fledgling community Roseto, after the Italian village of Roseto Valfortore, which many of the borough's founders had called home before immigrating to the United States. Today, Roseto maintains a strong sister city relationship with its Italian namesake. On 2 January 1912, Roseto was formally incorporated at the Roseto Borough Hall and became America's first 100% Italian borough.

By the early 20th Century, civic organizations, such as the Sons of Italy, the Order of Red Men, and the Roseto Macaroni Club flourished, as citizens sought to maintain their Italian identity while promoting their patriotism as Americans. Around the time of World War II, the gradual recession of the local slate industry led to fewer jobs for the quarrymen who called the borough home. However, around this time, sewing factories were simultaneously growing in large numbers in the area and began providing work for both young men and women.

In 1913, the Columbus Public School was built to provide education for the borough's children in grades 1 through 8, after which, students would continue their studies as a different kind of Slater at nearby Bangor High School. Columbus School served Roseto's children until 1978, when the school district moved classes to a newer facility. Briefly abandoned, the historic building was reopened just two years later and continues to house Faith Christian School.

Today, Roseto is a much more diverse borough than it was at the time of its founding, but the traditional Italian values of family and community remain strong in all residents. Family businesses and busy old churches still line the streets of Roseto, just as they did over one hundred years ago. The health effects of this lifestyle have not gone unnoticed and were documented in a medical study called "The Roseto Effect," an experiment which sought to determine why mortality rates in the borough were so much lower than other communities. The research concluded that the simple community lifestyle embraced by Roseto's inhabitants is the key to their remarkable longevity. The sense of togetherness and family that exists throughout the town does more than just make life more enjoyable, it actually promotes better health!

This year, Roseto celebrated its centennial, or "cent'anni" in Italian, with a weekend full of live music, delicious food, entertainment and even a parade. The borough also welcomed a visiting delegation from Italy's Roseto Valfortore, including the sister city's mayor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor the 100th anniversary of Roseto's incorporation. I would ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing its residents a very festive cent'anni!

REMEMBERING SGT. STROH

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Edina Police Sergeant

Steven Stroh. Sgt. Stroh was a 25 year veteran of the Edina Police Department and recently lost his long and courageous battle with cancer.

Sgt. Stroh was a beloved member of the community, beginning his career as a community service officer after graduating from St. Thomas College. Stroh quickly worked his way to police officer and to sergeant, earning a place as a respected and trusted leader.

While a serious leader in the community, Sgt. Stroh also had a humorous side. Fellow officer Kevin Rofidel remarked, "If [anyone] pulled a prank around here, he'd be in on it."

Sgt. Stroh believed in learning as much as he could to help educate his fellow officers and even earned his masters of police administration while he was in the force. Fellow officers will certainly miss his years of experience and expertise.

Sgt. Stroh is survived by a loving family and a grateful community, which he dedicated his life to serving.

101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, October 10th heralds one century and one year of the Republic of China (ROC).

History—and, particularly Chinese history—is filled with many tales of heartbreak, despotism, suffering and despair. But more than a century ago, one man, Dr. Sun Yat-sen had a different vision for a new China. Having spent his formative adolescent years in the U.S. state of Hawaii, Dr. Sun returned to China inspired by the uniquely American ideals of U.S. Presidents Alexander Hamilton and Abraham Lincoln. When given the chance, Dr. Sun would tell anybody who would listen that the crux of President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, "government of the people, by the people, for the people", had shaped his own political philosophy, the Three Principles of the People.

While implementation of Sun's three principles was often flawed and undermined while the ROC was on mainland China, they eventually took shape—long after his death following the ROC's move to Taiwan in 1949. In 1987, Taiwan lifted its Martial Law Emergency Decree. In 1991, free elections were held for the island's Legislative Yuan. And in 1996, amidst the attempted intimidation of mainland Chinese missiles being lobbed into the Taiwan Strait, Taiwan staged its first free presidential election. Taiwan has since had three more four presidential elections—most recently, this past January with power changing hands once in each direction.

Voter participation in Taiwan is among the highest in the world, and its people value and embrace its democracy. With so many government ministers having lived and studied in the United States, the ROC-U.S. connection and shared democratic ideals forged under Dr. Sun are alive and well in Taiwan.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of China on its 101 years of principled existence, and on its living example of true democracy.

STEM JOBS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 6429, an unnecessarily partisan bill to increase the number of visas for foreign students graduating with advanced degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). While I strongly believe we should increase the number of visas for these students, I oppose this bill because it eliminates the Diversity Visa Program. There is broad bipartisan support to increase the number of STEM visas. It is unfortunate that the Republican Leadership brought this bill to the floor. President Obama highlighted his support for increasing the number of STEM visas in his 2012 State of the Union Address, when he stated that it made no sense to train foreign students with advanced STEM degrees and then "send them home to invent new products and create new jobs somewhere else." I wish the Republican Leadership would have brought to the floor a bill introduced by Rep. ZOE LOFGREN to increase the number of STEM visas without eliminating the Diversity Visas Program. I support that legislation.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bicentennial of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Lehigh County was established on 6 March 1812, with my hometown of Allentown as its county seat. 1812 was a turbulent time for our nation, which was on the brink of war, but the young county persevered through its initial difficulties. The industrial revolution of the early 19th Century gave rise to the growth of the American railroad industry, creating a massive demand for iron to lay tracks that would eventually span the nation. Lehigh County answered the call and quickly established itself as a national manufacturing powerhouse. In addition to manufacturing, the county also flourished as an agricultural center, with crops and livestock supported by cool waters of the Lehigh River and its many tributaries. Farming has been a staple of the region's economy since its settling, and today remains an important way of life for many Lehigh County families.

Lehigh County is home to several prominent colleges and universities that provide quality education to thousands of students each year. These include Cedar Crest College, DeSales University, Lehigh Carbon Community College, Muhlenberg College and Penn State Lehigh Valley. The county's unique location between the major markets of Philadelphia and New York has also made it an ideal location for commuters looking for a better quality of life.

Much to the delight of its residents—new and old—Lehigh County boasts an abundance of cultural, recreational, and entertainment attractions that keep it bustling with activity. The

county is home to Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom, a popular amusement park known nationally for its famous 1923 wooden roller coaster Thunderhawk. The Lehigh Valley Zoo, located within the scenic 1,100-acre Trexler Nature Preserve, is home to more than 275 animals representing 70 species, as well as one of the most impressive herds of American Bison in the eastern United States. Many residents fondly remember the thrill of fording the Jordan Creek after visiting the zoo as children.

Lehigh County is also home to beautiful Coca-Cola Park, home of the Philadelphia Phillies' AAA affiliate, the Lehigh Valley IronPigs. Residents of the county and neighboring communities are already getting excited for the start of the 2014–15 AHL season, when the Philadelphia Flyers' affiliate, the Phantoms, will begin playing hockey in downtown Allentown. It is, indeed, an exciting time to be living in Lehigh County.

Known for its many traditional festivals that highlight the area's rich history, appreciation for the arts and love for the outdoors, including Das Awkscht Fescht, the Great Allentown Fair, Mayfair and SportsFest, countless Americans visit Lehigh County each year. Music is also an important component of Lehigh County's cultural identity, and while newcomers may wonder what sounds a boomba makes, thousands of visitors flock to Allentown's J. Birney Crum stadium each summer to hear the familiar tunes played by dozens of drum and bugle corps during their annual stop to the Lehigh Valley.

In recognition of its 200th anniversary, the Lehigh County Bicentennial Committee organized four months of activities celebrating the county's people, history, and culture. The festivities included the launch of the Lehigh County Hall of Fame to recognize residents who have achieved greatness in entertainment, sports, business, and other areas. The 24 inductees of the inaugural class included NFL Hall of Famer Chuck Bednarik of Upper Saucon Township, four-time Super Bowl champion Matt Millen of Whitehall Township, actress Amanda Seyfried of Allentown, actress Christine Taylor of Lower Macungie, famed Chrysler CEO Lee Iacocca of Allentown, Brigadier General Anna Mae Hays, the first female general in the U.S. military and an Allentown native, and Golf Channel analyst Rich Lerner of South Whitehall.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the county that my family and I call home on the occasion of its bicentennial. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Lehigh County's 200th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING VALLEY MEDICAL'S
ALLIANCE WITH UW MEDICINE**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Valley Medical Center, located in Renton, Washington, for being named one of the Best Hospitals in the Puget Sound by U.S. News & World Report. The hospital is also celebrating the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with University of Washington Medicine. The alliance has increased the availability and quality healthcare to the Puget Sound region.

Since partnering with UW Medicine, Valley Medical Center has increased services and clinical expertise for residents by expanding coverage in neurological and thoracic surgery. Valley Medical Center has also expanded education and training programs. These programs create better access to primary care and other forms of specialized care when needed. The Best Hospitals ranking also honored Valley Medical Center for high performance in orthopedics, diabetes, and endocrinology.

Valley Medical Center hopes to bring more expansion in clinical areas as their alliance with UW Medicine grows. The alliance most importantly hopes to reduce the overall cost of healthcare and make access to care readily available. Since the recent enactment of healthcare reform, Valley Medical Center's clinics and UW Medicine's neighboring clinics have already improved their accessibility by having world class specialists readily available.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of Valley Medical Center and the one-year anniversary of Valley Medical Center's alliance with UW Medicine. I am confident that the alliance will strengthen and continue to provide remarkable care to the community for years to come.

ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September 21, 2012, as Alzheimer's Action Day and to offer my support to the Alzheimer's Association for their work to provide care and support for individuals with Alzheimer's and their families.

The Alzheimer's Association, Houston and Southeast Texas Chapter has served Southwest Houston since 1980, when caregivers Harry Walker and Al Malyn created the chapter at a local church to care for their wives. The organization now includes over 300 volunteers who serve 37 countries. With chapters like this, the Alzheimer's Association is able to make a difference. I would like to congratulate this chapter's hard work and accomplishments and thank them for their leadership in our community.

Alzheimer's disease leaves millions of American families in emotional and financial ruin. It affects more than 4 million people nationwide and will affect as many as 14 million by 2050. Additionally, almost 15 million Americans are caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia.

My mother-in-law battled this disease, so I appreciate how devastating it can be. During the last Congress, I was a cosponsor of the National Alzheimer's Project Act, introduced by our colleague Representative MARKEY. This important law created the Office of the National Alzheimer's Project and called for a National Alzheimer's Plan. During this Congress, I am pleased Representative MARKEY continues his efforts aimed at combating Alzheimer's by introducing the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act, which I have cosponsored and I believe it deserves consideration by the House.

Making advances in Alzheimer's is a goal in our national interest. We must continue funding programs aimed at education, support and